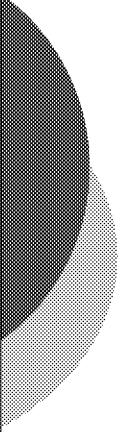


# Forensic Drug Testing at The Massachusetts Department of Public Health

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## Impacts of the Melendez-Diaz Decision



## Strategies for Managing Demands

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- Collaborative approach
- Changes in sample submission & testing policies
- Redistribution of some testing
- Thoughtful scheduling of drug cases
- Training

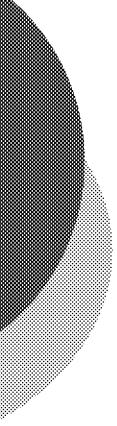
DPH, DPS, DAs, Courts and Defense bar

No small quantity marijuana, no PI buys, single point of contact for expedited analyses, keeping cases together

DPS assumed Middlesex County 10/1/09 . Possibly additional assistance in the future

Area needs attention! Justice Mulligan – Suffolk County draft plan

Chemists (re-training?), ADAs, courts

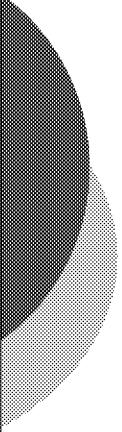


## Initial Requests for Oral Testimony

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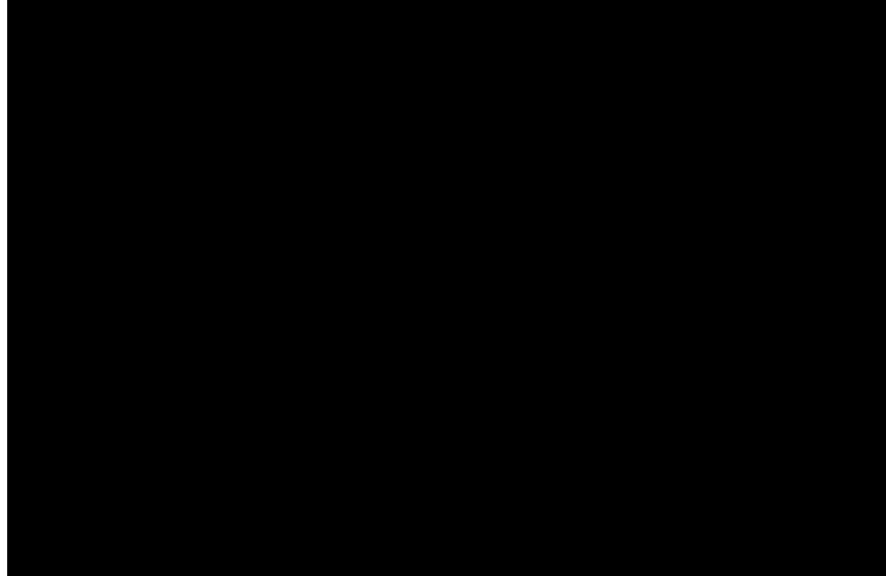
- June 25 – September 11, 2009
- 291 subpoena received, 491 chemists ~1.7 chemists/case
- Appeared at 69 trials
- 258 hours out of laboratory
- Equivalent to 6.8 weeks

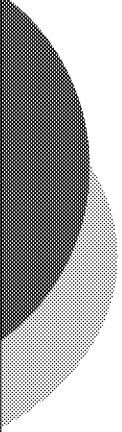
\* To date 413 subpoena received



## Increasing Demand for Testimony

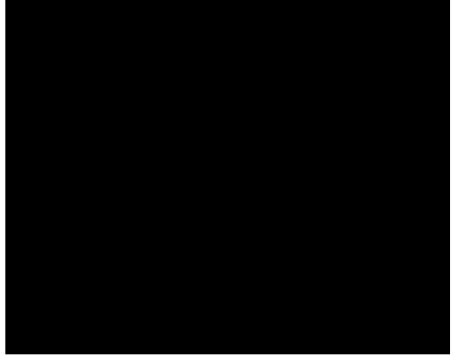
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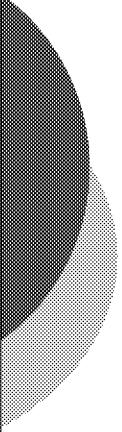
## Significant Preparation Time

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- Adequate notice
  - Keep laboratory apprised of the case status
- 

## Resultant Decline in Analytical Productivity





## Contact Information

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